

COOPERATIVE MANAGEMENT OF DISTRIBUTED NETWORK CACHES

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The techniques described employ a cooperative organization of network service
5 providers to provide improved distributed network services. The network service providers
that are constituent to the cooperative organization represent various perspectives within the
overall Internet content distribution network, and may include network owners,
telecommunications carriers, network access providers, hosting providers and distribution
network owners, the latter being an entity that caches content at a plurality of locations
10 distributed on the network. Aspects include managing content caches by receiving control
signals specifying actions related to cached content that is distributed on a network, such as the
Internet, and forwarding the control signals through to the caching locations to implement the
actions represented by the control signals, thus providing content publishers the capability of
refreshing their content regardless of where it is cached. Aspects include managing content
15 caches by receiving activity records that contain statistics related to requests for cached
content, segregating the statistics according to which content publisher provides the content
associated with the statistics, and providing to each content publisher statistics corresponding
to content provided by that content publisher, thus allowing them to monitor requests for their
content regardless of where it may be cached on the network.